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reached us appears in the heading of this article, the parts enumerated comprising 578 pages, 7 charts and 50 plates. Of this the larger part is comprised in a monograph of the Microplankton which takes up 355 pages and an Atlas of 37 plates. Lists of the birds and mammals observed are given in the "Journal." The mosses were extensively collected and contained an extensive fauna of minute invertebrates, of which the Tardigrades are described by Dr. Richter, about 30 species were obtained, of which five proved to be new. A minute copepod crustacean, *Moraria muscicola* Richters, which has adapted itself to a terrestrial habitat, was among the other animals found in the moss. The dredgings produced thirty-eight species of mollusks and two brachiopods, all well-known arctic forms. The Echinoderms included twenty-five species, a Crinoid, nine Ophiurans, eleven starfish, an echinus and three Holothurians, none of which proved new, which is not astonishing, since so many exploring expeditions have visited this region. The specimens of bottom obtained conformed in general to the character of soundings previously made in the Polar seas. The specimens studied are rich in garnet, pyroxenes and basaltic magmas, but showed no meteoric particles and were poor in magnetite. More than seventy soundings were made, of which nineteen were carefully analyzed. In the matter of terrestrial physics meteorology is discussed by Commandant de Gerlache, magnetism by A. Nippoldt and atmospheric electricity by G. Ludeling. The charts are from the latest researches published by the Russian Admiralty.

Altogether the present contribution adds a worthy member to the long list of publications on the ever interesting problems of the Arctic region.

WM. H. DALL

Modern Geography. By MARION I. NEWBIGIN. New York, Henry Holt and Company. 1911. Pp. 256.

Newbigin's "Modern Geography" is Volume 7 of the new Home University Library of Modern Knowledge, established by Williams and Norgate of London. It is a popular

volume, aiming to summarize in two hundred and fifty pages the content of geography as now understood. Four chapters are devoted to the history of geography since the doctrine of evolution has revolutionized modern thought, to the development of surface forms and to climate and weather. Four chapters are devoted to the geography of plants and animals and the Races of Europe. The final chapter considers the Distribution of Minerals and the Localization of Industries and Towns.

The chapters are necessarily brief and in no case is it possible for the author to consider any topic in a really satisfactory manner; and yet the new ideas are outlined in simple, untechnical language, and with sufficient fullness to give the gist of modern thought, in every case. The reader will not, as is so frequently the case in volumes of similar scope, gain the impression that all has been said that might be said on any subject. He will, on the contrary, be naturally and easily led far enough into the subject to become interested in it and desire to learn more about it. A carefully selected list of references given in the appendix presents the reader with the logical next step in his advancement. Throughout the volume the author writes with a real geographic instinct and constantly inserts examples of the influences of physical conditions on life distribution and relations. In this way geography is shown to be a subject not merely of broad generalizations, but of real significance in understanding some of the common things of every-day life. Except in the chapter devoted to Plant Geography, where the author considers the plant formations of Eurasia and North America, but little attention is given to American conditions, and few illustrations of geographic relations are taken from the rich offering of our own continent.

Though the volume is thus European in tone, it is not by any means without value for readers in this country. It is a suggestive volume, interestingly written, that should appeal to the general reader, and offers many suggestions to the geographer, though he may

feel dissatisfied that it is not more complete in scope.

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THE CONVOCATION WEEK MEETINGS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES

THE American Association for the Advancement of Science and the national scientific societies named below will meet at Washington, D. C., during convocation week, beginning on December 27, 1911.

American Association for the Advancement of Science.—President, Professor Charles E. Bessey, University of Nebraska; retiring president, Professor A. A. Michelson, University of Chicago; permanent secretary, Dr. L. O. Howard, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.

Section A—Mathematics and Astronomy.—Vice-president, Professor Edwin B. Frost, Yerkes Observatory; secretary, Professor George A. Miller, University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.

Section B—Physics.—Vice-president, Professor Robert A. Millikan, University of Chicago; secretary, Professor A. D. Cole, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

Section C—Chemistry.—Vice-president, Frank K. Cameron, U. S. Department of Agriculture; secretary, Professor C. H. Herty, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N. C.

Section D—Mechanical Science and Engineering.—Vice-president, President Chas. S. Howe, Case School of Applied Science; secretary, G. W. Bissell, Michigan Agricultural College, East Lansing, Mich.

Section E—Geology and Geography.—Vice-president, Professor Bohumil Shimek, State University of Iowa; secretary, Dr. F. P. Gulliver, Norwich, Conn.

Section F—Zoology.—Vice-president, Professor Henry F. Nachtrieb, University of Michigan; secretary, Professor Maurice A. Bigelow, Teachers College, Columbia University, New York City.

Section G—Botany.—Vice-president, Professor Frederick C. Newcombe, University of Michigan; secretary, Professor Henry G. Cowles, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

Section H—Anthropology and Psychology.—Vice-president, Professor George T. Ladd, Yale University; secretary, Professor George Grant MacCurdy, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.

Section K—Physiology and Experimental Medicine.—Vice-president, Professor William T. Porter, Harvard Medical School; secretary, Professor George T. Kemp, 8 West 25th St., Baltimore, Md.

Section I—Social and Economic Science.—Vice-president, Professor J. Pease Norton, Yale University; secretary, Seymour C. Loomis, 69 Church St., New Haven, Conn.

Section L—Education.—Vice-president, Professor Edward L. Thorndike, Teachers College, Columbia University; secretary, Professor C. Riborg Mann, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

The Astronomical and Astrophysical Society of America.—December 27–29. President, Professor E. C. Pickering, Harvard College Observatory; secretary, Professor W. J. Hussey, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

The American Federation of Teachers of the Mathematical and the Natural Sciences.—December 27–28. President, Professor C. R. Mann, University of Chicago; secretary, Eugene Randolph Smith, Polytechnic Preparatory School, Brooklyn, N. Y.

The American Chemical Society.—December 27–30. President, Professor Alexander Smith, Columbia University; secretary, Professor Charles L. Parsons, Durham, N. H.

The American Society of Biological Chemists.—(Baltimore and Washington.) December 27–29. President, Professor Lafayette B. Mendel, Yale University; secretary, Professor A. N. Richards, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

The Society of American Bacteriologists.—December 27–29. President, Professor F. P. Gorham, Brown University; secretary, Charles E. Marshall, East Lansing, Mich.

The American Physiological Society.—(Baltimore and Washington.) December 26–29. President, Dr. S. J. Meltzer, Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York City; secretary, Professor A. J. Carlson, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

The Geological Society of America.—December 27–29. President, Professor William Morris Davis, Harvard University; secretary, Dr. Edmund Otis Hovey, American Museum of Natural History, New York City.

The Association of American Geographers.—December 28–30. President, Professor Ralph S. Tarr, Cornell University; secretary, Professor Albert Perry Brigham, Hamilton, N. Y.

The Paleontological Society.—December 28–30.